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Debbie Perkins
BHSc Physiotherapy

09 459 1468
021 332 940

576 Kara Road
Maungatāpere

Newsletter

Number 15 1 July 2016



Website www.matarau.school.nz

Phone (09) 433 5823 **Email** – admin@matarau.school.nz

Thanks

... to those parents who have assisted with the junior Paper Mill visits.

... to those who are supporting our International Schools English and Mathematics candidates with their weekly practice papers.

... to those who have paid their term contributions.

... to the two families who nominated Matarau School for a \$500 ASB donation when they recently took out mortgages.

And a special thank you ...

... to Aide Shortland who has done a fantastic job running the Spanish options programme in your senior school these past two terms. It has been a real privilege having a native Spanish speaker on deck for these lessons. Aide will take a break from lessons now to pursue other work opportunities but may well return down the track. In the meantime, Mrs Cates-Sakai has kindly offered to take Spanish during Mrs Shortland's absence.

We will be adding a "European History through games" option to the mix this coming term and so plenty to keep the seniors engaged. We also hope to have another Asian language on offer for the senior school in 2017.

People of the week

... Player of the days - Bunny for a winning try a couple of weeks back.

Kamo Pirates JBN Rugby - 25 June Tyson. Well done Bunny & Tyson

... Demetrius who was hugely helpful a week or so back in finding another boy's missing shoes. Thanks Demetrius.

... Eva for an amazing story this week.

Korean Language Classes

We regret to advise that Korean language classes will not continue beyond the end of this term as our Korean language teacher has secured a full time teaching position in Auckland. We would like to thank Katherine for her conscientious facilitation of this programme and wish her well for her teaching career. Thank you to children and their parent support teams for getting behind this programme. Children seem to have thoroughly enjoyed this programme. Well worth the effort!

Term Calendar ... *More to follow as dates come to hand!*

4/5 July Parent - Teacher Interviews

7 July Year 8 HPV vaccination 2

8 July Final day of term 2

25 July First day of term 3

Change of Clothes

Due to current weather conditions we suggest that all students have a spare change of clothes in their bag for wet weather accidents. Thank you.

Andrea Faust
126 Going Road, RD1 Kamo 0185
Cell 027 302 8095
Office 09 435 3227
Efax 09 3550 340

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Reminders from last week

... senior science fair will take place week 3 of next term .. exhibits in week beginning 1st August, judged on the 8th August and open for viewing from 9th August

... any questions or concerns in the run up to science fair should be directed to Mrs Donaldson or Mr LeBreton please. As always, the key is to avoid a late run-up. We are happy to help.

... if you would like to receive a copy of the newsletter by email each week, please email Helen at admin@matarau.school.nz.

... please contact the school office before 8:45am if your child will be absent from school on the day in question (or leave a message on the school answer phone that morning or the prior evening). Please state the reason for non-attendance as this data is required by the Ministry of Education.

... School Contribution and Fees - Please let us know if we can help organise time payment arrangements if that would be preferable.

Parent / teacher interviews

As you all know interviews are scheduled for Monday & Tuesday next week - 4 & 5 July. Please help the process along by ...

... being on time and moving on the bell

... bringing with you any thoughts on their digital (see saw) portfolio

... noting down any questions or concerns beforehand

Please note that these interviews primarily exist for the sharing of achievement information. Please also note that it is possible that a second teacher may sit in on one of your interviews. This does not indicate a concern. Teachers are asked to sit in on at least one other interview for professional development purposes. All matters discussed are kept confidential.

Notice of early finish to school days

Please note that school finishes at 2:30pm on Parent-Teacher Interview nights - 4 & 5 July to allow teachers time to prepare for interviews. Please note that buses will run approximately 30 minutes earlier on these days. Parents who pick their children up from school are asked to do so at this earlier time please. We apologise for any inconvenience caused by these changes. (Please note that bus drop off times can vary from the usual on these days due to unpredictable bus loadings). ***Please note there will be no change in time for the Kamo Bus on these days.***

Year 7 and 8 Technology Classes

Parents of year 7 and 8 children are reminded that technology classes (formerly woodwork, cooking and soft materials) start for our seniors on the first Friday of next term, and every Friday thereafter until the end of the year. This ensures that our pupils receive an equivalent (or greater) specialist teaching component in these subjects than year 7 and 8 children at other schools. Parents will receive a more detailed letter shortly, but we especially draw your attention to the following ...

... children will be offsite at the Hukerenui Technology Centre for the duration of Friday

... they will need to have footwear and clothing suitable for a workshop context

... children will also need to take their lunch and drink bottle with them to the Tech Centre

Homework

Please do your best to ensure that children complete their homework on designated afternoons, or drop a quick note or email to their teacher if things are getting a bit hectic at home. Most of all we do not want to be chasing homework from children whose circumstances make homework "too big an ask" for them. While we think that there is benefit from doing homework, we are more than happy to excuse students from homework at a parent's request.

Lost Property:

The lost property will be put out every day next week as the weather permits. There is a significant amount of clothes, shoes and containers. Teachers will be take their students past the lost property, but please take the time to check for your children's gear as next Friday (last day of term) the lost property will be donate to charity.



School Cross Country

Will be held early next term (date to be confirmed). If your child is serious about placing in the school competition you might want to start them training over the holidays. First practice will be on Monday 8th July - so come prepared with running shoes.

International Schools Competitions

Further practice papers for the English exam have been issued this week. It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that children sit at least 2 practice papers a week at home please (parents will also need to mark these - marking sheet provided). A reminder that the exams are scheduled as follows ... English - 2 August & Mathematics - 16 August. Practice papers for maths exam will be made available next week including some for the holidays.

Confirmation of Secondary School

If you are the parent of a year 8 child and you have not yet confirmed their likely secondary school please return your confirmation form on Monday or phone the school office. This will help us to ensure that you get the information you need as we approach information and enrolment time. As mentioned in earlier correspondence, it is fine, at this stage to identify more than one possible option.

Nothing Naughty Bars

If there are any families who would like to sell more bars please txt or call Lisa on 0274 543 630 or email lastryanfamily@gmail.com – select the flavours you'd like and as many or few as you'd like – first in first served. Thank you.

Headlice

We understand these critters are making a reappearance in some classes .. parents are asked to check their children's hair and to react promptly in the event of infestation.

Something you may be interested in

During term 4 of each year we identify an area of comparatively poorer performance for special focus in the following year. Last year we identified writing as an area for special focus in 2017. In recent weeks staff have been running our first comprehensive writing diagnostic across the school and this is showing pleasing results. At all levels of the school we are showing a mean score well above the national average and a reduced number of "tail end" performers than is the case nationally.

It also appears that the Cambridge Programme has had a very significant positive impact on year 7 and 8 achievement levels. This is a credit to those involved. We look forward to further improvements in the second half year and beyond. Thank you Mrs Robertson for your leadership in this area.

Attending Matarau School in 2017?

This is a prior notification that early **next term** we will be seeking an indication of which children may not be at Matarau School in 2017. As the roll will pass the 300 mark this year, there is a general agreement that roll growth needs to be managed carefully to ensure that we do not over tax facilities nor lose our special character. We are always sad to hear of families moving on, but it is important that we know as soon as you know if your children will not be with us in 2017. We get enquiries from out of zone families most weeks (sometimes 3 a week) and we want to be fair on these people. In mid-September the board will make a final decision on the number of available places for 2017 and is keen to base its decision on the best available information. So ... more to follow next term.

Our condolences

... are extended to the Webster family who lost their little son and brother Judah this week at the age of 85 days. Judah touched many hearts during his brief earthly sojourn and received much love in return. Our thoughts are with Adrian, Laura, Gabriela, Daniela, Caleb and Joshua at this sad time. If any of the children's school friends would like to send them an encouraging word of support please send these to principal@matarau.school.nz and I will forward these for you.

Finally

We are very pleased to see just how many parents have committed to attending mid-year interviews. We collect more data than most schools, and it is our strong belief that parents should have access to this data. You need more than generalities to be assured of how your child is achieving and whether gaps, if there are any, are closing. Most of the data we will share with you is norm referenced data and this gives us confidence that our National Standards judgments are accurate. Feel free to bring to our attention any areas of concern and we will commit to working on these.

This is the final newsletter of the term. Enjoy the coming holidays, have quality time together, and be sure to travel safely. Final day of term 8 July, first day back 25 July.

Plenty to be excited about next term including Science Fair, School Production and more!

Regards ... *nga mihi*

Kevin Trewhella
PRINCIPAL

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children, please support them



Holiday Programmes

SKATING - Roller Discos during the school holiday. For all ages and all levels. Inline and quads available.

Skate classes every week during terms on Fridays after school. For more info about other Roller discos and classes, go to skatescool.co.nz and subscribe to our mail list.

Hurupaki Educare - July School Holiday Programme from Monday 11 July for 10 days, based in the Hurupaki School Hall, Kamo. Lots of exciting activities planned with 4 outside visits. The programme is OSCAR accredited, families can apply for WINZ assistance. Discounts available for two or more children from one family. Go to schoolholidayprogrammes.co.nz or contact Christin on 0274821331 or info@schoolholidayprogrammes.co.nz for more information.

The PaperMill - Thursday 14 • Friday 15 • Thursday 21st • Friday 22 July 2016 10:15am - 11:15am. Max 12 per session. Recommended ages 5+. Choice of paper making, marbling and embossing. Minimum of 2 activities. \$5 per activity to be paid on the day. More info on our facebook page thepapermill.co.nz click on 'School Holiday Sessions'.

CUPCAKE CLASSES 11 – 22 JULY Come and learn how to BAKE your own cupcakes and then decorate in funky styles! Classes are run twice a day. Morning sessions 10.30 – 12.30; Afternoon sessions 1.30 – 3.30; Each session is \$40; Bake your own cupcakes, learn to ice and make cool decorations, children will take home between 4-6 cupcakes. Ages 5+. Website www.caketinlove.co.nz. Or call me on 027 5618112 or 432 9811.

Creative Writing Workshops Local author, Donna Blaber, is running two inspirational one-day creative writing workshops during the July school holidays for young writers in Years 5, 6 and 7 (aged approximately 8-13 years). The workshops will be held on Thursday 21st July and Friday 22nd July 2016, at Huanui College in Glenbervie, as part of their July School Holiday Programme. The cost per day (9am-3pm) is \$35 per child and spaces are strictly limited to 12. Visit <http://www.donnablaber.com/schoolhols.html> for further information.

Actionzone Camp is on again - 10-15 July. We are a Christian camping organisation that has been running camps for 9-13 year olds for the past 25 years. Base at Marsden Bay Christian Camp located in One Tree Point. For more information and to register online go to www.actionzonecamps.com

Hopscotch Holiday Programme – Located at Kensington Park, we have another round of fantastic activities and outings lined up for the Term 2 holidays. Open from 7.45am – 5.30pm. Prices start at \$38 a day for earlybird bookings. WINZ subsidies available. For more info or to enrol email hello@hopscotchforkids.co.nz or call Abbey on 021 237 2598.

Community Notices

The Healing Haven Homeopathic Dispensary - All your homeopathy needs in one place. Consultations for everything from fevers and flu to anxiety, stress and chronic health conditions; Homeopathic Remedies; Homeopathic Kits; Prenatal Classes; Homeoprophylaxis; CEASE Therapy; QRA Testing/Hair Testing - Phone 0272 377 377 1213 Pipiwai Road, Ruatangata Email jessie@healinghaven.co.nz www.healinghaven.co.nz facebook.com/healinghaven shop.healinghaven.co.nz

Are you concerned about your child's ability to understand or talk clearly with others?

Moretalk Speech Language Therapy offers private assessment and therapy sessions. Our well established practice has three NZ trained SLT's working in clinic (Kensington) or school based therapy sessions, with children with a wide range of communication delays and disorders. Please ring or email us to discuss your child's needs and get a quote for services. Phone: 021 2720101 or 09 4370434 e-mail: michelle@moretalk.co.nz

Calling all old Mobile Phones to help Sustainable Coastlines look after

NZ's coastlines and waterways. After \$2.5 million donated to the Starship Foundation from the sale of unwanted old mobile phones it is time for a new multi award winning NZ charity - Sustainable Coastline to benefit from this scheme. It would be great if you could rummage around in your drawers and toy boxes and bring into School any unwanted mobile phones you may have. Phones collected help our School gain valuable rewards and also the environment benefits by keeping our landfills free of mobile phones and their array of hazardous toxic substances. Please drop any unwanted mobile phones you may have in the collection box in the Office at School.

